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**BEECROFT - CHELTENHAM
CIVIC TRUST**
P.O. BOX 31 BEECROFT, N.S.W. 2119.

**Bulletin 1-78
February**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 14th Annual General Meeting of the Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust will be held on Wednesday 22nd February 1978, in St John's Hall Beecroft, commencing at 8.00 pm.

Following presentation of the President's and Treasurer's Reports, the 1978 Committee of the Trust will be elected. Four members of the present Committee are unable to stand for re-election for next year.

The Committee consists of 10 elected members, who are responsible for the administration of the Trust's activities. Office bearers are elected by the Committee itself at its first monthly meeting.

The remainder of the meeting will be open for General Business, as usual, and provides an opportunity for residents to make their views known to the incoming Committee.

At the conclusion of the meeting supper will be served.

WEDNESDAY

22nd FEBRUARY 1978

MALTON ROAD BUSHLAND

The Trust has been happy to support a group of Malton Rd/Kethel St residents in representations to HSC regarding an alteration to the zoning of land between Malton Rd and Cheltenham Heights.

The area was green belt under the old Cumberland County Planning Scheme and Council's Plan originally showed the area as Open Space Reservation beyond the line of a 200' deep residential strip along Malton Rd.

Following objections from the owners of the land, and because HSC couldn't afford resumption costs, Council extended the Residential area to 400' deep in the final Plan.

As the exhibition of Amendments after the initial objections are received is not required by law, this change wasn't noticed until the prescribed Planning Scheme eventually became available and a subdivision application came before Council.

Subdivision of the area involved could destroy the bushland outlook of the existing houses in Malton Rd and in Blackbutt Ave, and seriously affect the Park and the watercourse through the area, which feeds into the Lane Cove River

If funds for resumption of the area can't be found we will be asking Council to apply even more stringent conditions than usual to subdivisions of the properties involved.

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One may only guess as to why the installation of the Copeland Road lights has been repeatedly delayed. Perhaps it was the widening of Copeland Road (now dropped), the Traffic Plan for Beecroft Centre (where is that now?) or the proposal for a new fire station.

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RESIDENTS ANNUAL REPORT 1977 - 78

Following the 13th AGM on Wednesday 13th March 1977, the 10 committee members met on 28th March and elected the following Office Bearers -

President - Mr S. Bough
Vice President - Prof K. Campbell
Vice President - Mr G. Fairweather
Minutes Secretary - Dr W. Greenhalgh
Correspondence Secretary - Mr A. Rich
Treasurer - Mr G. Fairweather
Publicity - Mr A. Thomas

The Committee elected Mr R. Wade and Mr A. Rich to membership to join the elected members, who were Miss P. Rosier, Mr G. Armstrong, Prof S. Barker and Mr W. Freeburn.

Mrs F. Dwight who was elected in her absence at the AGM, regretfully declined Committee membership. I commend to you the efforts of your Committee and personally thank them for their support and assistance throughout the year.

MEETINGS

Committee meetings have been held on the fourth of each month.

Committee members have attended the fortnightly meetings of Hornsby Shire Council as observers on your behalf.

Two Public Meetings were held -

On Wed 4th May some 68 members attended to hear a report from the Pennant Hills Park Sub-committee and a talk presented by Miss Joan Bradley on weed control in parklands.

On Wed 4th November a "Meet the Councillors" night had a disappointing attendance of only 25. However Cr Evans and Cr Hodson spoke on many subjects in reply to Members questions.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership was maintained throughout the year but I must once again stress that more members will give us greater influence in protecting your interests.

BULLETIN

Mr Fred Waddington and his volunteer distributors have delivered 4 Bulletins

this year and we thank them for their invaluable contribution. My thanks also to Mr Alan Thomas for his efforts in producing the Bulletin.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Many items are considered by your Committee throughout the year. Some are settled by a single letter or phone call but many require continuous follow up, sometimes over many months.

Pennant Hills Park has been our biggest task. The sub-committee has met with Council's Parks and Recreation Committee. An organised cleanup on 7th May was very successful with HSC co-operating to supply Dumpsters. A Walk in the Park on 11th September was once again very popular. At present we are trying to improve the system by which fire trails are carved through the Park.

A submission was made to the Boundaries Commission in support of Council's views.

The PTC and HSC were advised of the wishes of residents regarding the re-building of Cheltenham Railway Overbridge. Recent information indicates that the new bridge, for which tenders have been called, will be one way traffic south, with a pedestrian access and traffic lights at the Sutherland Rd end.

Sutherland Rd remains a constant concern and we have communicated with traffic authorities and HSC on this matter.

The use of Copeland Rd by heavy trucks has also been followed up.

During the year I attended a meeting of local Civic Trust and Progress Assns to exchange information and to get an idea of the problems in neighbouring districts. I hope this interchange will become a regular activity.

Mr Alan Rich and I also accepted an invitation to attend a public meeting convened by the Hornsby Heights Progress Association to protest against a rumoured attempt to establish an airport in the Galston Plateau area.

Dr Greenhalgh submitted a simple plan for the landscaping of Beecroft Fire Station but the Board of Fire Commissioners declined to implement the

proposals due to lack of finance.

A sub-committee consisting of Prof K. Campbell, and Messrs Freeburn and Fairweather reviewed the Trust's Policy statement and an updated version was subsequently approved by the Committee and published in an earlier Bulletin.

The BP Service Station site has passed to a private owner, but we will continue to guard against any non-conforming use of the property.

Submissions were made to HSC regarding the state of repair of the Beecroft War Memorial.

The level of indiscriminate parking on the Village Green was also discussed with HSC.

Ideas for improving the Beecroft Village area are being collected and considered by a sub-committee comprising Miss Penny Rosier, and Messrs Alan Rich, Alan Thomas and Ron Wade. We hope this will lead to a general improvement in the amenity of the Village.

Enquiries directed to the PTC and Mr Jim Cameron brought the answer that the earthworks at Cheltenham Station are to be used in the eventual quadruplication of the Northern Line.

The Committee is continuing efforts to have privet declared a noxious weed, but this is an uphill fight.

Slight alterations to the Council's proposals for the Car Park on the Sutherland Rd side of Beecroft Station were submitted.

Many small points were also pursued during the year.

Finally may I commend to your consideration all aspects of the West Pennant Hills Residential Development. This region is not very far from Beecroft Cheltenham and is planned for at least 25,000 new residents. To date we have been unable to uncover evidence of any planning for traffic distribution from the area. It WILL affect Beecroft Rd and must be watched carefully.

By provision of our Constitution this will be my last term as President and I take this opportunity to express my

appreciation to the members of my Committee whose efforts and co-operation have made my job a pleasant and rewarding experience, and I thank them one and all.

May I ask you as members of the Trust and residents of Beecroft and Cheltenham to maintain a constant vigilance to forestall any effort to decrease the amenity of this beautiful and well nigh unique district in which we live.

SPENCER BOUGH
President.

PENNANT HILLS PARK

During the year the sub-committee appointed by the Trust to advise on management and monitor activities on the Park has functioned effectively. Amongst matters dealt with by the sub-committee and/or the Trust have been -

Plan of Management
Printing and binding of the Plan by HSC is proceeding, and copies are expected to be available at the AGM. The Council accepted the Plan and its recommendations (with one Exception) on 13th October 1976. The Trust is appreciative of Council's assistance in printing the Plan, which it is hoped will be widely used educationally and privately, and so improve use and protection of the Park.

Works Programme.
HSC accepted a programme of works proposed by the Trust, and allocated approximately \$600 for its implementation. This money has not been spent as much of it was related to fire trail maintenance, since affected by developments outlined hereunder. A revised programme is being prepared.

Fire Trails.
The Trust was disturbed by work carried out to maintain and extend the fire trail system constructed in the Park, contrary to the recommendations of the Plan of Management. Discussion is still in progress with HSC to have the adverse effects of this work (erosion, rubbish dumping, misuse by trail bikes) minimised.

One may only guess as to why the installation of the Copeland Road lights has been repeatedly delayed. Perhaps it was the widening of Copeland Road (now dropped), the Traffic Plan for Beecroft Centre (where is that now?) or the proposal for a new fire station.

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PENNANT HILLS PARK CONT.

Weed Control.
Weeding parties organised by Mrs F. Dwight (869 8845) have met regularly on the second Saturday in each month at 10.00am to remove weeds. Attendances have been fairly constant, and steady progress made. Mrs Dwight would be pleased to see other groups established (e.g. North Epping, Pennant Hills) to work closer to their homes.

National Estate.
The area covered by the Plan of Management was submitted to the Nature Conservation Council of NSW for consideration for inclusion in the register of the National Estate.

Endangered Species.
At the Trust's request, Council has agreed to take special action to protect rare *E. squamosa* trees near the recreation fields on Pennant Hills ridge.

Proposed Subdivision.
The Trust has lodged an objection to a proposal to subdivide land between Malton Rd and Cheltenham Heights on the grounds that it was recommended that it be considered for inclusion in the Park, and its disturbance will adversely affect the Park.

Orienteering.
A meeting has been arranged with the Orienteering Society of NSW re use of the Park for this sport.

Walk in the Park.
Our annual Walk in the Park was held in September, and was attended by about 150 people.

Meeting with Council.
The next meeting with the Recreation Committee of Council will be held shortly to discuss matters of mutual interest affecting management of the Park.

TRAFFIC

In response to our enquiries we have received traffic flow figures for various streets in Beecroft and Cheltenham. Apparently the latest information available is from 1975! It shows that -
Beecroft Rd between Cheltenham Rd and The Boulevard carried 17,369 cars per day.
Sutherland Rd south of Copeland Rd carried 8,110 cars per day.

That a road as bad as Sutherland Rd is carrying almost 1/2 as many cars per day as Beecroft Rd is a frightening state of affairs.

Positive steps must be made to reduce this load, even at the expense of forming a break in the continuity of the road somewhere between Beecroft and Cheltenham.

It is to be hoped that the proposed West Pennant Hills - Beecroft Traffic Advisory Committee to be set up by HSC will make some positive recommendations and that these recommendations will be acted upon by the relevant authorities.

BEECROFT CHELTENHAM CIVIC TRUST

MEMBERSHIP

Name.....
Address.....
.....Telephone.....

Attached is my cheque/cash for \$ _____ as renewal/new membership.

Annual Subscriptions.
Family membership \$ 5.00 Adult membership \$ 3.00
Financial year commences 1st January.
Receipts will not be issued unless requested

Post to The Treasurer, P.O. Box 31, Beecroft, 2119.